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Message Text

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64
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

SAJ-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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C: J DOBBINS
S/S: JPMOFFAT
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P R 250003Z JUL 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175300

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, IT
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SUBJECT: ITALIAN EC PRESIDENCY

REF: A) ROME 10441; B) ROME 10641; C) NICOSIA 2287

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SUMMARY: AMEMBASSY ROME REQUESTED TO SEEK APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO INDICATE TO ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OUR APPRECIATION FOR BRIEFINGS WE HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY ITALIANS IN ROLE AS EC PRESIDENT, GOOD START ITALIANS HAVE MADE SINCE JULY 1, AND OUR HOPE THAT CLOSE CONTACTS BETWEEN US WILL BE MAINTAINED DURING REMAINDER OF ITALIAN INCUMBENCY. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CONVEY TO APPROPRIATE MINISTRY OFFICIALS OUR APPRECIATION OF ITALIAN EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH CLOSE CONTACT WITH U.S. ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE NINE DURING ITALIAN EC PRESIDENCY. THE DEVELOPING DIALOGUE WITH THE NINE IN THIS AREA RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT DURING IRISH PRESIDENCY AND APPEARS WELL LAUNCHED FOR NEXT SIX MONTHS. WHILE INITIAL MONTH OF ITALIAN INCUMBENCY HAS NOT SEEN SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS ON MAJOR ISSUES, ITALIAN FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE IN KEEPING US INFORMED OF PROGRESS IN SEVERAL FIELDS HAS BEEN VERY USEFUL.

2. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO MAKE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO OUR APPRECIATION FOR PROMPT GOI BRIEFINGS CONCERNING RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH PORTUGUESE FONMIN ANTUNES ON CONDITIONS OF POSSIBLE EC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL (REF A) , AS WELL AS ON CURRENT STATUS OF EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE (REF B). ON LATTER, WHILE DIFFICULTIES REMAIN IN PREVENTING ARABS FROM USING DIALOGUE FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES, WE APPRECIATE CONTINUING EFFORTS BY ITALIANS IN ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF "STEERING COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS" TO KEEP TALKS WITHIN TECHNICAL/ECONOMIC MANDATE. WE HOPE EC SUCCESS IN THIS REGARD CONTINUES.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO EXPRESS OUR PARTICULAR SATISFACTION WITH EC INITIATIVE MADE VIA ITALIAN AMBASSADOR MANFREDI TO TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH IN NICOSIA (REF C), WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE HAD MODERATING

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INFLUENCE ON EXPULSION PLAN IN VOLATILE CYPRUS SITUATION AND MUST BE CONSIDERED A CONSTRUCTIVE STEP.

4. IN BRINGING OUR ESTIMATE OF THESE INSTANCES TO THE MINISTRY'S ATTENTION, EMBASSY SHOULD EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE PROMPT REPORTING ON SUCH ISSUES, AND THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN CLOSE CONTACT THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF ITALIAN PRESIDENCY. KISSINGER

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